

Statement to the Licensing Board of the AEC

October 10, 1973

RE: Kerr-McGee Corporation

The League of Women Voters of Oklahoma is concerned about the Kerr-McGee Corp. request to dump radioactive wastes into a 3,000 ft. disposal well at their plant near Vian, Sequoyah Co., Oklahoma. We feel that a decision of this nature is of such importance as to warrant the full publication and open hearings that any real or potential source of surface water pollution would receive.

Deep well disposal systems which dispose of wastes too concentrated and dangerous for surface disposal are not perfect systems. Geological factors which make the difference between safe conditions and hazardous ones are not always possible to predict and any error or accident produces pollution lasting for generations. There can be no provision for cleanup.

The League has long supported publicizing all data on pollution and pollution control programs as well as increased opportunities for citizen participation in hearings and on decision making bodies. Basic to this is good communication between industry, regulatory agencies and citizens.



Mrs. M. E. Arnold, President
League of Women Voters of Oklahoma

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)

KERR-MCGEE CORPORATION)

) Docket No. SUB-1010
)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of a Memorandum from Robert M. Lazo undated with attachments have been served on the following by deposit in the United States mail, first class or air mail, this 15th day of October 1973:

Kerr-McGee Corporation
Attention: Mr. George B. Parks
Executive Vice President
Kerr-McGee Building
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102

James P. Murray, Jr., Esq.
Roy E. Kinsey, Jr., Esq.
Regulatory Staff Counsel
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

John B. Farmakides, Esq., Chairman
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Francis S. Irvine, Esq.
600 Fidelity Plaza
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102

Dr. Dale F. Babcock
711 River Road
Wilmington, Delaware

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Berlin, Roisman & Kessler
1712 N Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Mr. Lester Kornblith, Jr.
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Mrs. M. E. Arnold, President
League of Women Voters of
Oklahoma
808 South Peoria Avenue
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74120

Peggy A. Sawning
Office of the Secretary of the Commission

cc: Mr. Farmakides
Mr. Kinsey
Reg. Files
ASLBP
ASLAB

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
)	
KERR-McGEE CORPORATION)	Amendment to Source
Kerr-McGee Building)	Material License SUB-1010
)	
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma)	

MEMORANDUM FOR: SECRETARY, United States Atomic
Energy Commission

ATTENTION: Frank W. Karas, Chief
Public Proceedings Staff

I have received in the mail on October 15, 1973, a letter dated October 10, 1973 and two enclosures from Mrs. M. E. Arnold, President, League of Women Voters of Oklahoma, which letter and enclosures are enclosed herewith.

Please see that copies of the letter and enclosures are delivered to the Public Document Room and served on Mrs. Arnold, the Licensing Board and the parties to the proceeding.

THE ATOMIC SAFETY AND
LICENSING BOARD PANEL



Robert M. Lazo.
Robert M. Lazo, Member

*Copy of
8512180141*



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF OKLAHOMA

808 SOUTH PEORIA AVE. / TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74120 / 918 583-1928

October 10, 1973

Atomic Safety and Licensing Board
Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Attention: Robert M. Lazo

Dear Sirs:

The League of Women Voters of Oklahoma protests the notification procedure of the AEC hearings on proposed industrial plans in our state. Specifically we are concerned about the plan by the Kerr-McGee Corp. plan to dispose of atomic wastes in a 3,000 ft. well at their plant site near Vian, Sequoyah Co., Oklahoma. Despite the fact that the required documents are available for inspection in the Salisaw Public Library, (Sequoyah Co.) and the claims of the Kerr-McGee attorney that "people in Oklahoma are quite well aware of the project", the fact is that very few people in Oklahoma are aware of it. In all fairness the Federal Register cannot be considered sufficient notification of hearings. We should like to see the AEC become more responsive to our environmental concerns and utilize additional means of public notice.

President Nixon said in 1971 that "in the final analysis, the foundation on which environmental progress rests in our society is a responsible and informed citizenry. My confidence that our nation will meet its environmental problems in the years ahead is based in large measure on my faith in the continued vigilance of American public opinion and in the continued vitality of citizen efforts to protect and improve the environment."

Through a news story we have learned that the date for the Kerr-McGee hearing has been tentatively set for October 15 and 16. We have also learned by chance (and too late) through the Federal Register that in order to be a limited participant in the hearings a petition to intervene should have been filed by September 17, 1973. We are attaching our statement which we would have submitted earlier had we known of the deadline and hope you will give it consideration.

Very truly yours,

Helen Arnold

Mrs. M. E. Arnold
President

HA/mp

ENC. CC: Natural Resources Defense Council



*Dupe of
8512180128*

C O P Y

October 10, 1973



Ms. Karin P. Sheldon
Natural Resources Defense Council
1710 N Street
Washington, D. C. 20036

Dear Ms. Sheldon:

Thank you for your letter with the Federal Register notice. Through a combination of undesirable circumstances there was a delay in my receiving the letter in time to meet the September 16 deadline for participating in the Kerr-McGee hearing. We have talked with Dr. Lois Sharpe on the EQ staff of the National League office in Washington and she advised us to go ahead and send our statement and at the same time protest the inadequacy of the notification procedure. She also said that if the NRDC files suit to halt underground dumping of nuclear wastes the League of Women Voters of Oklahoma could possibly enter the suit as a friend of the court.

Please advise us what this would entail and if you would wish us to do so.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. M. E. Arnold
President

HA/mp

*Copy of
851218 0135*

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Mrs. M. E. Arnold, President
League of Women Voters of Oklahoma